

WASHINGTON- Today Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) applauded the Bush Administration's proposed increases to combat illegal immigration. The administration announced it will seek \$12.1 billion for illegal immigration efforts.

President Bush's proposed budget will include \$3 billion for the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency to investigate and arrest illegal aliens. The President is also asking for about \$775 million for fencing infrastructure and technology to secure the border with Mexico.

"We have lost control of our southern border, it is porous and anyone with the most innocent or worst of intentions can come into our country and assimilate into our communities. This illegal immigration must be stopped," said Congressman Terry.

It is estimated that 670 miles of fencing will be installed by the end of the year. The President will also request roughly \$442.4 million to hire, train and equip 2,200 new Border Patrol agents, boosting the total number of agents to about 20,000 by September 2009. By the close of fiscal 2008 about 17,189 Border Patrol agents will have been deployed.

